Secretaries of the age above sixty years

2984. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons occupying positions of Secretaries and above in Government of India are above the age of sixty;

(b) the reasons for giving such persons extension beyond the age of sixty; and

(c) the rules in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI) : (a) There are, as on date, ten persons above the age of sixty occupying positions of Secretaries and above in the Government of India. In addition, there are also some persons above the age of sixty, who are working in regulatory bodies and Statutory positions like Central Vigilance Commissioner, Comptroller and Auditor General, Election Commissioners, Secretary General, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, etc., as per rules.

(b) and (c) The extension beyond the age of sixty, has been granted in public interest as per Fundamental Rules 56(d) [F.R. 56(d)].

Increasing retirement age of Scientists

2985. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand is lying under consideration with Government for increasing the age of retirement of scientists from 60 to 62 years;

(b) if so, the present status of the same; and

(c) by when a decision is likely to be taken?;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI) : (a) At present, no such demand is pending consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.